

FIRECRIER



West Des Moines Fire Department, 3421 Ashworth Rd., WDM, IA 50265

515-222-3420 fire@wdm.iowa.gov www.wdm.iowa.gov/fire

New Fire Chief Announced

The City announced two weeks ago that Craig Leu accepted the offer to serve as Fire Chief. He will begin his employment on July 27.

Craig Leu has 24 years of experience in the fire service, including 11 years in management with the Sedgwick County Fire District #1 in Park City, Kansas.

We would like to welcome Craig to West Des Moines!



Upcoming Dates

July 1 – Association Meeting
July 3 – Independence Day Parade 18:00
July 4 – Independence Day
July 4 – Mud Volleyball Tournament
July 7 – Union Meeting
July 25 – FD Golf Event

Retirement

After serving on the department for ten years, Firefighter Mark Novak has decided it's time to retire.

We would like to thank Mark for his time and dedication to the West

Des Moines Fire Department. Good luck in your new endeavors!



Educational Achievements

Adrian Dunbar, Michael Dunkin, Brandon Glenn, Matthew Herring,
Devon Killam, Andrew Scates, Scott Smith, Tyler Wallace –
Driver/Operator Pumper Certification

Tyrone Belle – Bachelor Degree in Business Management

Matt Sonnenburg – Bachelor Degree in Fire & Emergency Services
Management

June Incident Types

Rescue and EMS – 103 (down 43)

False Alarms – 61 (down 4)

Good Intentions – 36 (down 6)

Fire – 11 (up 2)

Hazardous Conditions (no fire) – 11 (up 3)

Service – 9 (down 5)

Special Incident Type – 2 (up 2)

Overpressure, explosion, etc. (no fire) – 2
(same)



Rope Rescue Training

A group of firefighters spent a week being trained as Progressive Rope Rescue Technicians.

The course started with a classroom review of rescue equipment, knots and safety. The class then moved outside for hands-on training with anchoring, belaying, mechanical advantage systems, raising & lowering, patient packaging, highlines and incident command.

This was great training for the firefighters who participated, including multiple practice rescue scenarios.



Meet Lola

Last week the new Locution Systems (Lola) went live. This is a Fire/EMS Station Alerting Software. It can include: Automated Voice Alerting, Fire Station Lighting and Visual Alerting, Zoned Alerting, Automated Control of fire station bay doors, and Fire Station Sound Systems.



All calls are dispatched similar to what we have now: recommended units (and short units), incident type, street address, common name, cross streets, radio channel (page repeat), and time. This includes incidents that are upgraded.

The major benefits of Locution are: reduce dispatcher workload, reduce dispatcher error, and (likely) reduce dispatch times all while giving fire/EMS departments additional and advanced paging options like true unit (or station) specific dispatch.

Trivia Question

What occupancy classification is A2?

(Assembly used for food and/or drink consumption.)

Happy Anniversary!

Congratulations to:

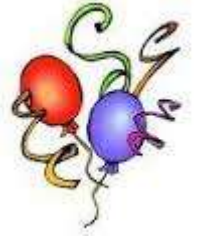
Mike Whitsell – 25 Years

Joe Finken - 25 Years

Chadd Egenberger – 15 Years

Paul O'Connell – 15 Years

Greg Siembieda – 15 Years



Thank you for your service and dedication to the City of West Des Moines!

Safety Town is Back

Station 21 crews are spending Thursdays this summer with kindergarteners attending Safety Town. The students learn about the equipment we carry on the ladder truck, what it's like to live at the fire station, and several key fire safety messages.

The two most common questions asked: "Do you have a fire pole?" "Do you have a Dalmatian?" ☺



The Floods of 2015...

Torrential rainfall left portions of West Des Moines wallowing in water on Thursday, June 25th bringing misery (soggy smelly basements for some) to residents, businesses and commuters who struggled with flooded roads and streets.

Fire officials were called to an emergency management meeting, and crews were called to fill sandbags along Grand Ave.

The good news is that Raccoon River Park opened (well, most of it) on Tuesday, and the Mud Volleyball Tournament is still a go. Fireworks? We may need a new location.



Main Street Iowa Awards

Congratulations to Tyrone Belle for receiving the *2014 Volunteer of the Year* award from Historic Valley Junction!



